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SUBJECT Organisation and Equipment of the Soviet Air  
Force in the Far East

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Comment: The following report is distributed for any possible use in the completion of the picture of Soviet Air Force activities and equipment in the Far East, although parts of the report are outdated and contradict information previously received on the subject.)

# I. Organization of the Soviet Air Force

(The Air Force consists of Air Divisions, Air Material Factories, Air Repairing Factories, and Air Area Headquarters. A general Air Force Headquarters has been established in the Ministry of the Armed Forces, in order to unify the Air Forces in the entire country. Air Force Headquarters have been established in the Far East, in every Military Area, and with every Air Force.)

## Number of Planes

### A. Joint Groups - Pursuit

1. Preparatory Planes	4
2. Group Commander's Plane	1
3. Three squadrons (15 x 3)	45
	50 Total
a. Preparatory planes	2
b. Squadron Commander's plane	1
c. Three flights of four planes each	12
	15

### B. Joint Bombing Group #1

1. Preparatory Planes	2 (sic, possibly 4)
2. Group Commander's Plane	1
3. Three squadrons (15 x 3)	45
	50 Total (as received)
a. Preparatory planes	2
b. Sq. Commander's plane	1
c. Two flights of six planes each	12
	15

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Number of Planes

## G. Joint Bombing Group #2

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1. Preparatory Planes	4
2. Group Commander's Plane	1
3. Three Squadrons (10 x 3)	30
	<u>35</u> Total
a. Preparatory Planes	1
b. Squadron Commander's Plane	1
c. Four flights of two planes each	8
	<u>10</u>

## D. Pursuit Division, or Bombing Division #1 (consisting of 4 Joint Groups)

1. Preparatory Planes	10
2. Division Commander's Plane	1
3. Four Joint Groups (4 x 50)	200
	<u>211</u> Total

## N. Bombing Division #2 (consisting of 4 Joint Groups)

1. Preparatory Planes	8
2. Division Commander's Plane	1
3. Four Joint Bombing Groups (4 x 35)	140
	<u>149</u> Total

## F. Pursuit Division, or Bombing Division #1 (consisting of 5 Joint Groups)

1. Preparatory Planes	15
2. Division Commander's Plane	1
3. Five Joint Groups (5 x 50)	250
	<u>266</u> Total

## G. Bombing Division #2 (consisting of 5 Joint Groups)

1. Preparatory Planes	15
2. Division Commander's Plane	1
3. Five Joint Groups (5 x 35)	175
	<u>191</u> (sic, as received)

## H. Combined Divisions (Pursuit)

1. Preparatory Planes (5 x 2)	10
Division Commander's Planes	2
Joint Groups (50 x 2; 50 x 2)	200
	<u>212</u> Total
2. Preparatory Planes (10 + 5)	15
Division Commanders' Planes	2
Joint Groups (50 x 3; 50 x 2)	220 (sic, as received)
	<u>237</u> Total
3. Preparatory Planes (10 + 5)	15
Division Commander's Planes	2
Joint Groups (50 x 3; 50 x 2)	200 (sic, as received)
	<u>267</u> Total

The above principles of organization and the number of planes vary according to the importance of the stationing area and the requirements of war (i.e., a small division is composed of three to four groups and a large division is composed of six to eight groups). One Air Force Area Headquarters is established with every Air Force. From three to five airfield groups and various units of the Ground Service Corps are components of Air Force Area Headquarters; these units are capable of supporting several divisions.

The Air Field Command consists of various types of Ground Service Corps. As a rule, one Air Command supports several Air Groups and a division is supported by an Air Command. The Command maintains and garrisons the airfield, maintains motor car squadrons to transport air groups, and functions as a signal unit and supply depot.

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## II. Fuel and Equipment

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Most of the fuel used by the Soviet Air Force in the Far East is imported from the United States. Military planes and Soviet Transports in the northeast are using 100 octane gasoline; however, in order to economize in the use of high grade fuel, 70 octane gasoline is used in Douglas transports. Lubricating oil from domestic products is used. It is especially suitable for use in winter and, as it contains an antifreezing liquid, can be used in temperatures as low as 40 degrees below zero.

The following fuels are used in planes by the Soviet Air Force: B-70, B-75, B-76, B-77, B-80, B-85, B-90, B-91, B-92, B-95, and B-100. (B-120 has not yet been produced.) Lubricants for winter use include YK, MZ, MZC, and M-17. A heater for lubricants is used which requires only 40 minutes for transmitting heat, even in extremely cold weather.

In the ground service an old-model trailer, which is inferior to the Japanese type, is used to transport fuel. Fuel supply cars have the capacity of either one-half or one kiloliter of oil.

## III. Soviet Planes in use in the Far East: see attached charts.

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1. Pursuit Planes. (Pursuit planes of the latest type have been equipped with flame throwers; they are expected to reach a speed of 900 km per hour soon.)

Name	Type	Engine	Crew	Highest Speed Flying Speed	Maximum Climbing Limit	Armament	Bomb Carrying Capacity	Remarks
I-16	Monoplane; Air cooled low wing		1	500km 270 - 290 km				Training plane
AP-3	Monoplane; Water cooled; low wing	one 1050 HP	1	550 - 600km 300km	10,000 m.	one 20mm gun two 13mm guns	150 kg	Radius; approximately 300 km; old type
LA-7	Monoplane; Air cooled; low wing	one 2000 HP	1	680 - 720km 450	12,000 m.	two 20mm guns two 13mm guns	250 kg	Radius; 500 km. Superior in high flying. 1st line.
LA-8	Monoplane; Air cooled; low wing	one 1850 HP	1	650 - 680km 430 - 450km	12,000 m.	one 20mm gun two 13mm guns	200 kg	Radius; 500 km. Superior in high flying.
LA-5	Monoplane; Water cooled low wing		1	500 - 530km 300km				1st line Training plane
*YAK-3	Monoplane; Water cooled low wing	one 2000 HP	1	630 - 680km 400 - 420km	10,000 m.	one 20mm gun two 13mm guns	150 kg	Radius; 400 km. Superior in high flying. 1st line.
*YAK-7	Monoplane; Water cooled low wing	one 1500 HP	1	600km 300 - 350km	10,000 m.	one 20mm gun	150 kg	Radius; approximately 300km.
*YAK-9	Monoplane; Water cooled low wing	one 1850 HP	1	600 - 630km 350 - 400 km	10,000 m.	one 20mm gun two 13mm guns	150 kg	Radius; 400 km. Superior in high flying. 1st line.
*YAK-11	Monoplane; Air cooled low wing	one 2000 HP	2	approx. 750 km 450 - 480 km	12,000 m.	two 20mm guns two 13mm guns	200 - 250 kg	Radius; 500-600 km. Best for high and long distance flying in the night. 1st line.
(The YAK-11 is also reported as an improved YAK-3 type plane with two air cooled, 2500 HP engines, and superior climbing capacity. The maximum speed of this model is 700 km per hour.)								
*YAK-13	Monoplane; Air cooled low wing	one 2000 HP	2	over 800km 450 - 500 km	12,000 to 14,000 m.	four 20mm guns	unknown	Developed during the last part of World War II. Equipped with rocket guns. 1st line.

\* The YAK 3, 7, 9, 11, and 13, and LA 5 and 7 are all excellent for vertical fighting; all can ascend to approximately 2,000 km in a round, and the best pilots can dive at an altitude of 5 km above the ground.

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## II. Bombers

Name	Type	Engine	Crew	Highest Speed Flying Speed	Maximum Climbing Limit	Armament	Bomb Carrying Capacity	Remarks
IL-1	(double seated)			-	8000 m	37mm guns; on both sides of engine axis 20mm guns are attached		10mm steel armor protecting the engine and pilot's seat; especially used to coordinate with ground fighting and to attack tanks. Best for low flying. Weak point - tail is made of wood.
IL-2	Monoplane; low wing	Water cooled; one 1050 HP	1	470 km 250 km	8000 m	one 20mm gun two 13mm guns two 7mm guns	500 kg	10mm steel armor protecting the engine and pilot's seat; good for low flying.
IL-10	Monoplane; low wing	Water cooled; one 1850 HP	2	430 - 450 km	9000 m	one 37mm gun two 20mm guns three 13mm guns one 7mm gun	500 kg	Single seats changed to double seats. Radius; approximately 300 km.
IL-10	Monoplane; low wing	Water cooled; one 2500 HP	2	580 - 620 km 350 km		one 37mm gun two 20mm guns three 13mm guns	500 kg	Later model of IL-10. Great threat to armored cars and tanks. Radius; 500 km.

## III. Dive Bombers

IL-2	Monoplane; double engine	Water cooled; two 1050HP	3	450 km 240 - 300 km	7000 m	two 20mm guns one 13mm gun	650 kg	Old style.
PE-2	Same as IL-2	two 1050 HP	3	530 - 600 km 330 - 370 km	10,000 m	one 37mm gun two 20mm guns one 13mm gun	750 kg	Improved PE-2. Radius; 500-700 km.

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Name	Type	Engine	Crew	Highest Speed Flying Speed	Maximum Climbing Limit	Armament	Bomb Carrying Capacity	Remarks
TU-2		Same as PE-2	4-5	550 - 600 km 350 - 370 km	10,000	one 37mm gun two 20mm guns one 13mm gun	1000 kg	Similar to PE-2, although slightly larger. Radius, 700-800 km.
AR-2		"	4-5	550-600 km 350-370 km	10,000	Same as above	800 - 1000kg	Similar to TU-2 and PE-2
<b>IV. Bombers</b>								
SB	Monoplane; low wing; double engines	Air cooled two 850 HP	3				750 kg	Old model
DB-2 (sic)	Monoplane; low wing; double engines	Air cooled two 1000 HP	4				1000 kg	Old model; also called DB-4; manufactured in the Far East.
TB-7	Monoplane; four engines	Air cooled four 1000HP	7-8	400 - 450	12,000	four 20mm guns four 13mm guns	3000-4000	Also called PE-8. Radius, approximately 2,000 km.
<b>V. Other Planes</b>								
Pe-5	Biplane		2	200 km - average		Transport		
RP-5	"		2	" "		"		
UT-2;	Monoplane		2			Training Plane		
UT-4 )								
U-2	Biplane		2			Training Plane; liaison plane		
TK-5	Monoplane, low wing, four engines					Transport		
IL-2	Monoplane, low wing, double engines					Douglas		
C-3						"		
C-47								
B-24; B-25)								
B-20; B-39;)						Made in U.S.A.		
B-36 )								
C-54	four engines					Transport		

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